

FORMER OWENS CORNING FACILITY SITE

160 Jackson Road • BERLIN, NEW JERSEY

This project update has been developed and produced by Owens Corning to keep the public informed about ongoing environmental investigations and remediation activities related to the site of the former Owens Corning facility in Berlin, NJ.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Owens Corning former Berlin, NJ site was entered into the Industrial Site Recovery Act (ISRA) program by Owens Corning when manufacturing operations ceased in October 1993. Site investigation activities, conducted in cooperation with and under the direction of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), identified soil and groundwater impacts related to the former manufacturing operations. The identified impacts are primarily related to the historic use of DOWTHERM A™ (a heat transfer fluid), fuel oil, and various lubricants.

Ongoing Groundwater Investigation

As part of the ongoing environmental investigation, groundwater at the site has been, and continues to be, monitored for impacts resulting from the former manufacturing operation. This work is being conducted by ARCADIS, an independent environmental consulting firm working for Owens Corning.

Owens Corning is committed to protecting public health and the environment. We are pursuing three paths of action simultaneously:

- A well survey and testing program
- Testing to define the extent of groundwater impacts
- Development of remedial plans to address on-site and off-site groundwater impacts

What Is A Well Survey?

The purpose of a well survey is to identify and test private water wells within a defined distance from the location of known impacts to groundwater. It is needed to ensure public health and safety is protected and to help determine the appropriate steps to provide safe drinking water.

On-Site Work Underway *(new)*

In October, ARCADIS worked to install additional onsite groundwater wells and conduct aquifer testing to support remediation planning currently underway. This work was done to support ongoing efforts to develop remedial plans to address on-site conditions contributing to groundwater impacts.

Want More Information?

Call our Community Information Line at **1-888-827-0983**

Email us at: OCBerlin@owenscorning.com

Visit our website at: occommunityinformationsite.com

Join us at our upcoming Community Information meeting from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on December 5 at the Atco Senior Center located at 474 E. Atlantic Avenue

UPDATE: Well Survey Results

As of **November 1, 2012**, Owens Corning has sampled 42 private potable wells as part of its ongoing well survey effort and with the consent of the respective property owners. The samples were sent to a NJ certified laboratory for analysis and a summary of the results is below.

6 wells tested in Berlin Township

✓ **All 6 wells met the applicable groundwater quality (GWQ) standards** for the DOWTHERM A™ constituents. Owens Corning shared these results with the respective property owners and no further action is planned at this time.

31 wells tested in Waterford Township

✓ **26 of the 31 wells met the applicable GWQ standards** for the DOWTHERM A™ constituents. Owens Corning shared these results with the respective property owners and no further action is planned at this time.

✓ **5 of the 31 wells contained levels of either one or both of the DOWTHERM A™ constituents above the applicable GWQ standards.** In accordance with NJDEP requirements, Owens Corning supplied bottled water within five days of receiving the laboratory results and is working directly with the property owners to establish an appropriate filtration system for their respective systems to serve as a long-term solution for their potable water needs.

✓ **2 wells contained levels of a constituent that is not the focus of the Owens Corning environmental investigation.** In accordance with regulatory requirements, Owens Corning notified the NJDEP and provided assistance to the property owners to help them understand the options available to them through the State.

5 wells tested in Evesham Township

✓ **All 5 wells met the applicable GWQ standards for DOWTHERM A™ constituents.** Owens Corning shared these results with the respective property owners and no further action is planned at this time.

✓ **1 of the 5 wells contained levels of a constituent that is not the focus of the Owens Corning environmental investigation.** In accordance with regulatory requirements, Owens Corning notified the NJDEP and provided assistance to the property owner to help them understand the options available to them through the State.

Defining Impacts to Offsite Groundwater Delineation Work Is In Progress

Owens Corning continues working to further delineate – or define – both the horizontal and vertical extent of impacts to groundwater related to the Owens Corning site, in accordance with NJDEP guidance. This is a necessary first step before we can design a remediation approach to address both on-site and off-site conditions.

Between February through July 2012, we collected groundwater samples from depths between 25 and 125 feet below ground surface at 23 locations throughout Berlin Borough and Waterford Township. As a result of this work, the northern and western boundaries of impacts to groundwater are now defined.

Beginning in early October, Owens Corning began the next round of delineation at locations in Waterford and Evesham Township based on our knowledge of area groundwater conditions and the impacts we have identified to date. This work is continuing through mid-November. The purpose of this work is to further to define the extent of impacts. The sampling is done using a track-mounted Geoprobe®. A Geoprobe® inserts a small-diameter rod or pipe into the ground to the preferred depth and allows a groundwater sample to be collected from various depths at the same location. After the rods are removed, the hole is backfilled. This is sometimes referred to as “grab groundwater sampling.” In addition, we installed five permanent monitoring wells to enable easy access for future monitoring; all five locations are located within County, NJDOT, or municipal rights-of-way to minimize impacts to private property owners. We will continue to notify the appropriate municipal officials of this work as the work progresses. If you have any questions regarding field activities, please call the Community Information Line at: (888) 827-0983.

Understanding the Area's Hydrogeology

We are in the process of installing staff gauges in the Mullica River in a continued effort to better understand the area's hydrogeology. A staff gauge looks like a measuring stick and is used to facilitate easy measurement of the surface elevation of water bodies. They will be removed when the study is completed.

Owens Corning Is Working with the Community

Owens Corning is committed to keeping well survey participants and the communities of Waterford Township, Berlin Township, Berlin Borough, and Evesham Township informed of our plans and activities.

➤ **The next Community Information Session will be held December 5, 2012 at the Atco Senior Center.**

- On September 12, Owens Corning made a presentation to the Waterford Township Council on completed and ongoing activities in the Township.
- On September 6, Owens Corning met with the Waterford Township Environmental Commission to provide a project overview and answer questions.
- On August 13, Owens Corning met with the Evesham Township Environmental Commission to provide a project overview and answer questions.
- On July 26, we held a Community Information Session at the Atco Senior Center.
- On July 25, Owens Corning met with the head of the Waterford Township Environmental Commission to provide a project update and answer questions.
- On May 16, we held a Community Information Session at the Atco Senior Center.

Owens Corning's testing is focused on the two constituents of DOWTHERM A™

1,1-Biphenyl and Diphenyl ether

When results show levels of these constituents above the applicable groundwater quality (GWQ) standards, Owens Corning will work with the property owner to address both near-term and long-term water supply needs for use with drinking and cooking.

Near-Term Solution

- Bottled water will be provided within 5 days and until a long-term solution is implemented (no more than 60 days).

Long-Term Solution

A granular activated carbon filtration system is an effective long-term solution for addressing constituents related to the Owens Corning site and for ensuring safe, potable water related to these constituents.

- Owens Corning has contracted with a local representative of Paragon Resource Management, Inc. to design, supervise and manage the installation and maintenance of a filtration system appropriate to the needs of the well owner.
- There is no cost to the property owner for these services.